

## THE ROLE THE MAJOR BANKS IN IMPERIALISM

from Kurt Gossweiler

1. To role the Banks in the Imperialism
2. The role of Major banks in group combat within the monopoly bourgeoisie
3. Who controlled the Monopoly banks?

An important aspect of The fight against imperialism was and is the Question about the role of Major banks. To this question has the author this essay before years in the yearbook for economic history expressed.<sup>1</sup> Supported on the Result his Under search of the ratio of the Major banks to the United Steelworks, he represented The thesis, that of the two elements - Industry - and Bank capital - the the latter plays a leading role. This article aims to address this problem again, n and before everything of the theoretical side more thorough treated as possible at the time.

### 1. To the role the Banks in the imperialism

As is well known, Lenin had in its basic work on imperialism shown, that industrial and bank capital at transition of Capitalism in its monopolistic way Stage to financial capital merge and the Banks begin to play a new role by the Industrial capital In ever greater dependence bring from yourself.<sup>2</sup> This subordination of the industrial capital the Bank capital was as new appearance so general my and conspicuous, that she hardly contested before the First World War, so much more but of industrial side was complained about and fought against.<sup>3</sup>

The Major bank manager responded on the growing Anti-banking with played Modesty. She wrapped itself in the garment to Injustice accused selfless servant on Common good and let the Dependency the Industry of the Banks and the Master schung of economic life through the the latter briefly away for one Legend explain.<sup>4</sup>

1 Gossweiler, Kurt. The United steel mills and the major banks, in: Yearbook for Economic history 1965, T 4, p. 11 ff.

2 Lenin, W. I., Imperialism as the highest stage of Capitalism, in: Works, vol. 22, Berlin 1960, S. 214 ff.

3 See. *ibid*, S. 223, 227.

4 See. Gossweiler, Kurt, a. a. 0., S. 14.

It was straight the size of their folds, the she to this "Modesty" caused because the demonstration of real ones scope of this Do that crowds challenge in a dangerous way had to. Engels noted in the view on the Trusts as early as 1894, no people would one like that undisguised exploitation the entirety through "a small "Gang of coupon cutters" fell let.<sup>5</sup> The concealment of the preserve Power relations became in imperialism more than that each requirement for their maintenance: quite This was particularly true for the power of the Major banks.

The Men's the Major banks were so very therefore engaged, one optics to generate, the her Institutes in a pleasing, that is impressive, however not oppressive Format showed. Included served she itself the them close ones Press and one entire Bevy of business journalists and professionals. She all launched the Opinion, with the Before position of power the Opposite banks the Industry be it at latest after first world wars were over, above all be with the big ones corporations, How United Stahlwerke or IG Colors, Industrial giants emerged, those of the Banks be completely independent. Read like this we approximately at Hagemann: "This victory the 'Industrial aristocracy' returned the pre-war relationship between Banks and Industry completely changed. To the Job the organic interweaving of Bank- and industrial capital came under the influence of the bank capital liberated industrial capitalism."<sup>6</sup> Into the same score hit also reformist Authors How Paul Ufermann<sup>7</sup> and Helmut Wickel<sup>8</sup> in theirs very material- and insightful Work .

The changes, the in the appearance and also in the structure of the capitalist economics since the First World War before gone are, led however, too Marxist authors to conclusions, like that following formulated by Jürgen Kuczynski: "Wrong would be that Impression, that this Bank capital the crucial role plays. Industry- and Bank capital are 'Equal rights' each other intertwined."<sup>9</sup> From one about weight of the bank capital about the industrial capital to speak, holds Kuczynski for impossible.<sup>10</sup> Accordingly he also the Opinion, that the monopoly banks, there she always associated with industrial monopolies be, cannot play their own political role.<sup>11</sup>

5 Engels, Frederick, The Development ctes socialism rnn the Utopia to Science, in: Marx/Engels, Factories, Vol. 19. Berlin 1962, S. 221. - In this Connection is the following passage from one Memorandum of Bankers and politician Bernard Dernburg to the Reich Chancellor Heinrich Brüning from the 9. 9. 1931 above Banking crisis and Reform of the banking of interest: "The economy ... becomes at a distance Scope determined by the bank and Credit policy of the Reichsbank and the Private banks ... This Credit institutions ... must at correct Function serving limbs of the overall economy be and not, as today, ruling. This Condition is responsible to the big one Part for the anti-capitalist Attitude the majority the German voters and your Rush against the private sector system." (quote after Born, Charles Eric, The German Banking crisis 1931. Munich 1967, S. 237 f.)

6 Hagemann, Wilhelm, The Relationship the German Major banks to Industry. Berlin 1931, S. 21.

7 shore man, Paul, The German steel trust, Berlin 1927, S. 97.

8 wrap, Helmut, I G. -Germany, Berlin 1932, S. 129.

9 Kuczynski, Jürgen, The Story the Position the workers under dem Capitalism, Vol. 14: To early history of German monopoly capitalism, Berlin 1962. S. 137. - See. against it Hallgarten, George W. F., imperialism before 1914, Vol. 1. 2. exp. ed. Munich 1963, S. 294 f.: "The Banks command the industry through current accounts. the emission, the direct one Participation. the posting from members of the supervisory board ... "

10 Kuczynski, Jürgen, a. a. 0.. S. 146.

11 The same, To sociology of imperialist Germany, in: Yearbook for economic

Against these views has already rnr years of Soviet Economic historian Faingar objection raised.<sup>12</sup> Man must however admit, that it on the first look in indeed so appears, as would have in the Time between the two world wars the large industrial corporations a far more significant role played than the big banks. The influence of Reich association the Germans Industry on the politics the German governments know and everyone calls the itself with the relationship between economics and politics in busy in those years.

But what do we know? about the role and meaning of Central Association Of the german Bank and banking industry? While the meetings of the Reich Association of Germans Industry and its memoranda be mentioned in all serious history books, find them Hardly any banker days attention, and of memoranda of the Central association or at all of the On the banking side, we have very little to report. The Submission to Hindenburg dated November 1932 with the Financial support, Hitler for the Chancellor to make, is under the Name "industrial think paper" in that Non-fiction dictionary of German history received genl<sup>13</sup>, although to their Signatories also leading Bankers belong. That Thyssen zuden was the most zealous sponsors the Nazis counted, white anyone, that but also the Director German Bench Emil George Stauss long before 1933 yourself to NSDAP known and his huge Influence for she applies made, is far less known. Names like Stinnes, Rathenau, Krupp, Thyssen, Duisberg, Siemens are each Readers familiar in difference to the Names lead render Bankers like for the Example Solmssen, Urbig, Aquarius, O. Ch. fisherman, Goetz, Goldschmidt, Reinhardt .<sup>14</sup>

On what is it attributed, that the Monopoly banks and her Director in the Consciousness the Population and in the literature one so much lower role play, as the huge Industrial corporations? For what reason gave it after the smashing of fascist Germany that is processes against the Director German Industrial groups (croup, Flick, IG Colors), not however against Director from Monopoly banks? Is the Reason for that really in this to seek, that the banks at more economical Meaning and at Influence on the politics of German Governments so far behind the Industry lagged behind? Were dem actually so, then would have to we however to dem Result reach, that Lenin's conclusions dem Years 1917 about the new one role of Banks outdated and outdated are.

So let's consider the Lenins Explanations Let's take a closer look at this topic and confront you with it Reality.

The the Banks dedicated Chapter his work above the imperialism overwrites Le nin: "The Banks and her new Role". This chapter begins as follows: "The basic and original Operation of the Banks is the Payment brokerage. In connection with this, they transform Banks fallow money capital in functioning,

d. H. profitable capital, she collect all and any monetary income and put she the available to the capitalist class.

In dem Dimensions, like yourself the banking industry and his concentration in few institutions develop, they grow banks modest intermediaries to almighty monopoly holders, which has almost everyone's entire monetary capital Capitalists and small business owners as well as the majority of the Means of production and sources of raw materials relevant land

story 1962, T 2, S. 57; s. a. Gossweiler, Kurt, a. a. 0., S. 12 f.

12 Faingar, I M., The Development of German monopoly capital, Berlin 1959, S. 73.

13 Non-fiction dictionary the Story Germany and the German workers' movement, Vol. 1, Berlin 1969, S. 823 f.

14 Georg Solmssen and Franz Urbig - discount company; Oscar Aquarius and Oscar Slither - German Bank; Carl Goetz - Dresden Bank; Jacob Goldschmidt - Darmstädter and National Bank; Frederick Reinhart - commercial and private bank; Otto Christian Fisherman - Reichskreditgesellschaft.

of or a whole range of countries. This transformation of numerous humble people intermediary in a heap \monopolists forms a the Basic processes of Over growing of capitalism in the capitalist ones Imperialism ls. and for this reason must we primarily at the concentration of banking. •• <sup>1</sup> 5 Then there is a lot of information and Pay, these "Basic process,, the development a few large bars to monopoly banks. illustrate. Lenin clearly directs the monopoly character of these banks from the concentration of banking away.

The concentration of bank capital enabled the banks, to grow into a new role: "The Bank, the the Current account for particular capitalists leads, practices shit.bar a purely technical, a mere one auxiliary operation. As soon as but these surgery takes on gigantic dimensions, shows itself, that a hand full Monopolists the commercial and industrial operations entire capitalist society submits, by she - through the bank connections, current accounts and others financial operations - the Possibility receives, yourself first about the business situation of the individual Capitalists exactly to inform, then she to check, she through extension or belittlement, Relief or making it more difficult credit to influence and finally her Fate completely to determine, the height of their income to determine, them capital to revoke or them to give the opportunity her Capital quickly and on a large scale to increase etc... 16 On another Place quoted Lenin approvingly the following Determination of the "Frankfurter Newspaper": "With the progressive Concentration movement narrows Circle, to the man with the big one credit claims can be made, constantly on, so that the dependence the Large industry from a few banking groups increases. Both inner connections between Industry and It will be financial Freedom of movement on Industrial companies dependent on bank capital restricted. Therefore accompanied the Large industry the increasing trust the Banks with mixed Emotions; show but already multiple Approaches to certain Agreements between the individual major banking groups, the one on one Restriction of competition run out. <sup>1117</sup> Lenin commented this Omissions with the words: "The last word in the development of the banking is again and again the Monopoly. •• <sup>1</sup> 8 Mind you, a monopoly, the from the competition of the banks it grows and the it the Banks allowed, the Industry from dependent on yourself to make, she to control, her to "completely determine" fate, and that to "Omnipotence the Giant banks" <sup>19</sup> leads. Just saw it Lenin the new role of Banks.

As judged Lenin the Impact of the merger from Bank- and Capital of Industry I to financial capital on the position of the Banks?

In the Chapter about the Banks writes he to this: "At the same time (with the always more complete dependence on the Industrial capitalists from the Bank - K G.) developed yourself, so to speak a personal union of the Banks with the largest industrial and trading companies, a bl'i on the other side merger through share ownership, through Entry of the Bank managers in the On supervisory boards (or the board members) the commercial and Industrial companies and vice versa returns." <sup>2</sup> 0

From this it follows, that for Lenin that grow together from Bank- and Industrial capital by no means the Dependency of a partners (the Industry) from the others (the banks)

15 Lenin, W. I., a. a. 0., S. 214.

16 Ibid, S. 218.

17 Quoted after ibid, S. 223 f.

18 Ibid, S. 224.

19 See. the same, Over a caricature on the Marxism and about "imperialist economism", in: works, Vol. 23, Berlin 1960, S. 34.

20 The same, The imperialism as highest stage of Capitalism, a. a. O., p. 224.

excludes. By the merger from Bank- and Industrial capital stated, lifts Lenin at the same time, that this merging The result is, above all, the banks' increased efforts to monitor the industry <sup>21</sup>, and secondly, that as a further Follow that Major banks - not however, the industrial monopolies - universal character assume: "The Consequence is on the one hand one always larger merger or ... an overgrowth of bank capital with dem industrial capital, and on the other hand an outgrowth the Banks in Institutions from truly 'universal Character' ". <sup>22</sup>

So Lenin understands that Financial capital as a dialectical one Unit from Bank- and industrial capital, at the one of the both Elements, the bank capital, plays a leading role. this will by Jürgen Kuczynski In my opinion, not enough attention has been paid if he the financial capital as a unit of "equal" elements.

A another Expression, perhaps also a theoretical one Caused for the Underestimation of the role of Bank capital through Kuczynski is in this to see that he the Monopoly character from banks only their connection with industrial capital derives financial capital<sup>23</sup> and the "Transformation more numerous more modest intermediary in a heap monopolists" not on the concentration of the banking himself returns; that goes naturally with the concentration of industrial capital hand in hand, without however, through this their own legality to lose.

The Chapter above the Financial capital begins Lenin with following Determination Help railing: "A always growing Part of capital the Industry", writes help rail, 'doesn't belong to the industrialists, who use it. You get control of that Capital only through the bank, the towards them the owner represents. on the other hand must Bank an ever-growing one part of her Capitals in the Industry fix. She will with it in ever larger Scope more industrial Capitalist. I call that bank capital, i.e. capital in money form, the on this way in reality in industrial Capital transformed is this Financial capital.' The Financial capital is so 'Capital in the Disposal the Banks and in the Use of Industrialists'. <sup>24</sup>

Well is this help railing Definition of financial capital certainly too tight, because they the Merge \_ from Bank- and Industrial capital to one new Unit, even the financial capital, not clear enough worked out. In ours Connection comes it but on the marking of the financial capital as "capital in the Disposal the banks and in of use the Industry" on and on, that Lenin this serious formula&-

21 Ibid, S. 225 f.

22 Ibid, S. 226.

23 Kuczynski, Jürgen, The Story the Position the workers under dem Capitalism, a. a. 0., S. 145.

24 Lenin, W. I., The imperialism as highest stage of Capitalism, a. a. 0. , S. 229; see. also Marx, Karl, The capital, Vol. 3, in: Marx/Engels, Factories, Vol. 25, Berlin 1964, S. 522: "The accumulation of borrowable monetary capital is depressing so to Share nothing out of as the Fact, that all money in what that industrial capital in the process of his circulation transforms, the takes shape, not of money, the the reproductive advance, rather of money, the she borrow... This takes but now form at, that the Banker, dem a part of Reproductive it lends, it dem other part of the reproductive loans, where then the banker as the Blessing giver appears; simultaneously, that the disposal of this capital is entirely in the hands of the bankers as By means of people device." Ibid, S. 416, provides Marx firmly: "You will general Administrator of money capital... A bench stands on the one side the centralization of money capital, the lender, on the others the centralization the Borger "

tion approvingly quoted.<sup>25</sup> Connecting at Helpful, though Explanations formulated Lenin the classic Definition of Financial capital: "Concentration of Production, resulting from it monopolies, merger or Overgrown Banks with the Industry - the is the History of origin of the financial capital and the Contents of this term."<sup>26</sup>

The process of merger from Industry- and Bank capital is in the Great, the is called by them Monopoly banks and the large industrial monopolies and their leaders, so well advanced, that from one inseparable unity spoken become must. With volker Authorization could therefore be given Bank magnate like the director the Germans bank and discount company, Solmssen, explain: "I am as well Industrialist How Banker."<sup>27</sup> The same would also have Carl Goetz of the Dresden Bank, Friedrich Reinhart from the commerce- and Private bank and Carl Fürstenberg of the Donut Trading company (BHG) can claim like vice versa about that head of the Haus Siemens, Carl Frederick from Siemens, or IG Farben Director Hermann Schmitz, to just to name these, with a certain justification from yourself say could, that she not only industrial, but also bankers.

But in the Comparison to the industrial Monopolies - also to the most powerful from them - the big banks pose to a certain extent because of their universality higher order units. These hers special, superior position not a random one Result, but lies based on this, that the Banking system "of formal organization and centralization after, ... the most artificial and most trained product (is), why it? the capitalist Production way at all brings."<sup>28</sup> As Marx states, is with dem Banking system already "the form one general accounting and distribution the means of production on given a social ladder", and now This resulted in "bank and credit ... at the same time the strongest means, the capitalist production about their own to drive out barriers."<sup>29</sup> Marx expressly emphasizes that that the Power the Banks are in their function as Centers of general accounting and the distribution of the capital be resting, Lenin has this idea - How we saw - further out.

By what has been said lies at the same time the justification for this, why despite always further progressive tender Personal union the Banks with the Industry the Leadership at Bank capital has remained and stay must. The personal union and that Overgrown from bank and industrial capital Financial capital by no means leads to wipe out of all differences and contrasts of industrial and Bank capital. After how before stir the Profits the Banks in your Business ten with the Industry out of one Deduction from the Gross profit of industrial capitalists here.<sup>30</sup>

That's it between the Industry- and provide a constant source for the bank capitalist fight for the Hone given this deduction, likes this one shape of interest or the Commission for Assistance with any profitable raids of the Stock companies the pockets of their shareholders and creditors (securities issues, Capital consolidations, bond conversions, etc.) have.

In addition, the interests of the industrial Monopolies never completely identical with those of major banks, precisely because these institutes are universal character have. The Relationship between Siemens and AEG or between the United steelworks and the IG color

25 Lenin, W. I. The imperialism as highest stage of Capitalism, a. a. 0. , S. 230.

26 Ibid.

27 German central archive, Historical Department I, Potsdam (hereinafter: DZA Potsdam), Reich Ministry of Economics (hereinafter: RWiM), No. 17564, Bl. 146.

28 Marx, Karl, a. a. 0., S. 620.

29 Ibid, S. 620 f.

30 Ibid, S. 350 f.

ben takes from the point of view of on all of these Pursue interested and involved Germans Bank different from from the point of view each of these companies mentioned. The interest in profit for example the German one Bank, end of 1920s unification from Siemens and AEG to a single huge German electrician trust to operate. At the Dominate the AEG bumped this aspirations but not in return. To the of the Germans Bank outgoing Resist pressure to be able to leaned itself the AEG still stronger at the "friends" American general Electric Corporation (GEC) on and This deepened the competition between Siemens and AEG. 31

Generally speaking: bank capital is pushing the hardest after concentration and Centralization of capital<sup>32</sup>, after mergers of industrial companies and sets them - often even against the will of the those involved - through.

The inevitability of conflicts of interest between banking and industrial monopolies despite merger for the Financial capital continues to exist, is the Reason for that, that Even the largest industrial monopolies, which are closely linked to the big banks, always strive to to keep their dependence on bank capital as low as possible .

It were for this reason fully incorrect, the Financial capital as contradictory, homogeneous See unity. The characteristic, the Lenin from There was financial capital: growth of the monopolistic Industry- and bank capital to a higher Unit, dem financial capital, with simultaneous dependence of industrial capital from bank capital, retains based on objective circumstances their validity, as long as Financial capital exists. One of the youngest and downright symbolic Examples of this were provided by West Germany Forced surrender at the end of 1967 House Krupp before the demands of the Germans Bank and her boss Hermann Abs after a reorganization of the company, the the Germans Bank the Chairman of the Supervisory Board and the factual control above the Friedr. Croup AG admitted. 33

For the time of fascism lies that Transcript an excellent connoisseur of the matter, des Private bankers and SS financiers Kurt by Schröder, before. In the Preparation the Nuremberg Processes above the influence of Major banks in the "Third Rich" questioned, outer *el*: "Especially during the reached in recent years influence of Major banks on the industry a such Extent, that it barely still a Part the German Industry gave, the was not under their control. 1134

The above also applies to the Association of the Power of Monopolies with the power of the state. In his study on sociology of imperialist Germany points Kuczynski on it there, that the banking monopolies more often as Representatives of the entire monopoly capital appear, because as Representative more specific political Interests from Monopoly groups.<sup>35</sup> From this right observation Kuczynski pulls but in my opinion incorrect Ending,

31 Koebel Tusk, Eberhard, AEG - Energy, Profit, Crime, Berlin 1958, S. 106 ff.

32 Hagemann, Wilhelm, a. a. 0., S. 168 ff.; see. also Kuczynski, Jürgen, The History of Location of the workers under dem Capitalism, a. a. Oh, S. 140 f.

33 The Mirror, 13. 3. 1967, S. 17 ff.

34 The document was first published by Mohrmann, Heinz, To the state monopoly Competition from Germans Big banks under fascism, in: Yearbook for economic history 1967, T 4, S. 21 - 26. It becomes in this Work quote after Ana Tomie of war, ed. u. deposited v. Lockpick Eichholtz u. wolfgang Schumann, Berlin 1969, p. 99 f.

35 Kuczynski, Jürgen, To sociology of imperialist Germany, a. a. O., S. 57.

that so you the monopoly banks out of the Considerations about political group formation within the Monopoly capital "practically "switch off".<sup>36</sup> Exactly vice versa is it's right: Because the into the Political transposed Battle of the different monopoly groups ultimately his - temporary, temporary - Solution only on the line of respective monopolistic overall interest can be found, will the role of Monopoly banks for the exit of the Fights between monopolistic groups always more crucial, because this Banks are much rather able. the line of overall interest to do as the individual industrial ones Monopoly groups that can.

The **but** apparatus with whose Help the Solution on this one Line enforced becomes, is the imperialist state. Thus is the universality the Banks one of the causes that this also applies to the decisions of the state a larger one influence as the Gain industrial monopolies. Je more necessary in the course the Development of state monopoly capitalism the direct intervention of State in the Business becomes, the more more must the influence and the Power not just that Monopolies at all, but in whole special rem Dimensions of the influence and the Power of Monopoly banks grow. For this too The Krupp "case" is almost a school example: Krupp's surrender before the Germans Bank was forced with state aid through a "concerted action" of para and Minister of Economics Schiller, where the minister clearly as vicarious agent of Bankers functioned.<sup>37</sup>

Not different was it in the fascist Germany. Kurt from Schroeder described the Conditions as follows: "De facto were the big banks nearly one second Government. The party and the of the Political party dominated government consulted the Major banks at every economic one and financial Ask, which appeared. The Representative the Major banks were from the Reichsbank and other government agencies consulted on virtually all decisions, and very often became the, What said, as last Word in the matter rated. Men like Section ... became from government and party leaders constant to Rate gezer gen... "<sup>38</sup>

Sometimes The increased self-financing that already began under the fascist dictatorship will also become a reality the Industrial monopolies as Proof of one fundamental change in the The relationship between banking and industrial capital is viewed in favor of the latter. So wrote to Example Jurgen Kuczynski: "Moreover were also as a result the enormous assignments and more direct State subsidies help heavy industrialists so well Checkout, that she 'of their' Banks as Financing institutions less urgent needed ... , her role as one of engines of the capitalist society had definitely become less. ,<sup>39</sup>

The tendency to increased self-financing has also taken place in the Federal Republic continued. So cheating for the Example the self-financing rate, the is called the Portion the purely invested Profits to the net investments, on average the years 1950 to 1964 around 51 percent opposite only 14 percent in the years the boom from 1926 until 1929.<sup>40</sup>

From this we often conclusion drawn, this must as Proof for the decreasing rolla of the Bank capital compared to the Industrial capital in the Federal Republic and in general in imperialism the Present to be viewed as. One such a conclusion is hasty both in terms of time of fascism as also the Federal German present. The causes for the reinforced Self-financing of the Industrial monopolies back then

<sup>36</sup> Ibid, S. 58.

<sup>37</sup> The Mirror, a. a. O.

<sup>38</sup> anatomy of war, a. a. O., p. 100 f.

<sup>39</sup> Kuczynski, Jürgen. The history of Location of the workers in Germany from 1800 to the Present, Vol. 2, 1933 to 1948, 2. exp. ed. Berlin 1948, S. 47.

<sup>40</sup> report of Germans Economic Institute Berlin, H. 18/1965, S. 14 (338).



and today are largely the same remained; for this reason may I quote, What I 1963 to this one complex problem wrote<sup>41</sup>:

"It's in the did to admit that Lenin's statement about the• Issuance of securities as one of the main transactions of finance capital' <sup>42</sup> for the time of fascism not more applied. Quite generally can said become, that the Securities emission the size Meaning, the she 'in development and consolidation of the Financially archie'-13 owned, in the same Dimensions lost, How the monopolistic in the state monopolies capitalism grew over. Various contributed to this causes at. The share issues served originally the Raising capital. The stock was so at the beginning your res life path before everything Funding resources. But at the same time belonged it from Beginning on to theirs Character, also instrument of power to Mastery of corporate to be. This second Page hers character unfolded itself always stronger, How Lenin already at the description of participation system showed.<sup>44</sup> Well stand but this both pages the share in a certain contradiction to each other. As a means of financing, that too the most remote and smallest Savings for the Mobilize service to capital should, demanded the share after widest Scattering, around to full effectiveness to reach; as She can do something about it become more effective, the more the share capital in concentrated in one hand is. The This contradiction was resolved in such a way that which is very significant position of power banks contributed, namely through the deposit voting right, that is the Transfer of the voting rights of the small shareholders to the Bank, in whose depot they their shares kept.<sup>45</sup> But the width scattering one to huge Part the Shares contains in the more danger in itself, that suddenly in a general meeting a new, the Management of remote parties in- or a major foreign shareholder appears, the a big one in silence Part of free float bought up and so one appropriate stand-in in the On the supervisory board or even on the board of directors Stock corporation requires. The raising of capital on the ways the Share issue so holds the possibility of outer (foreign) or the internal (domestic) foreign infiltration itself, at the the with dem Pursue Neither does an overgrown bank interested is, again administration.<sup>46</sup>

In addition come still the following Moments:

1. After Bank crash from In 1931 they were Bank manager downright from a shyness before the Surrender too greater Loans to individuals companies affected. The memory of that end of Danat Bank frightened and caused the banks to to take paths that it them allowed, at the Win the Industry to participate, without the risk

41 Gossweiler, Kurt, The Role of monopoly capital at the bringing about the Röhrn affair, phil. Diss. Berlin 1963 (Ms.), S. 198 - 203. - The Digits the Remarks do not correspond to those of quoted Passage, but were in the Order of this article.

42 Lenin, W. I., The imperialism as the highest stage of Capitalism, a. a. **0.**, S. 238.

43 Ibid.

44 Ibid, S. 231 ff.

45 Of course, the deposit voting right has not lost its importance today; but his role is but significant declined, there the controlling share packages of the Today, monopolies are generally in firm hands.

46 What the DWI report 3/1957: financing and Effects the Investments in the West German Iron- and steel industry, S. 6, over the eggs and Steel companies leads **out**, applies to them as well leading corporations other branches of industry: "The iron and steel and Steel companies were even not to it interested, the new shares the capital market to accommodate hands-free; she are at the Maintaining their exclusivity ...more than that ever interested. "

of setbacks contribute to must. This attitude goes e.g. b. out of one Speech of the director the Germans Bank, Winter coat, out, the he at the 29. and 30. November 1934 in Advisory board meetings his Bank held: included gave he the Policy out of, the Banks should reserved be at the Granting credit for investments, with it in one future crisis (them!) against them not again the Vol"l\urf the Bad investments raised could be.<sup>47</sup>

2. With the Scope of Company is **also growing** the Extent of the imestion needs and thus the Capital requirements. The expansion from Monopoly giants such as Steel Association and IG colors, requires Buzz, the on the free Capital market barely still to apply are, those too Loan volume one individual Bank, like she even so be big, Yes even from banking syndicates, exceed. Still more meets the to for the tackling fully newer production branches, How approximately the Large-scale production synthetic raw materials <sup>4 8</sup>, and for the He

direction from Pursue in industries, the already from Giant monopolies be controlled, How the mining industry (Imperial works Hermann Goering) and the Automotive industry (Volkswagen factory). The required for this Capitals are in frame and with the means of capitalist Private ventures hardly able to bring it up anymore, she can only still through the commissioning the entire economy for the Capital needs the Monopolies brought together become. Also comes into this for the Expression, that the Productive powers beyond the scope of capitalist production relations have long since outgrown, that their social character more and more urgent after corresponding change also ownership relationships, according to socialist production relations, demanded. At further Delaying this inevitable production Agreement of the character of the Production relations with the character of productive forces force the objective ones Necessities her recognition through the increase in state monopolistic character of the capitalist mode of production, through which the her inherent fundamental contradiction between social production and private capitalist appropriation but not dampened, but on the taken to the extreme becomes.<sup>49</sup>

It is this objectively determined development of the state monopoly Capitalism, the the apparent reduction of the Meaning of the Banks for the Financing of industrial Monopole is the basis. It is therefore only apparent, because at the Job the Financing through bank loans and share issues always to a greater extent the financing through the Country, through the redistribution of national income and des national assets on the State budget and the entire Economic policy in favor of the industrial and Bank monopolies occurs, at the the Banks thanks to of their particularly tight interweaving with dem State apparatus in turn the crucial role play.<sup>50</sup>

47 files the Germans Bank, No. 5961/6.

48 For the Present would have to be supplemented new, of the Sectors of production brought about by the scientific and technical revolution are mentioned.

49 "The dialectic of state-monopoly capitalism is so constituted, that he not that, as the bourgeoisie hoped, the capitalist system consolidates, rather the Contradictions of the Capitalism is even more aggravated and him until on the foundations shocked." (Program the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, assumed on the XXIII. party conference of the CPSU, in: Program and statute of the 1{Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Berlin 1961, S. 25.)

50 This Development sat itself after dem second World War in reinforced Dimensions continued.

See. for example The financing the Investments in West Germany, in: DWI reports, H. 21/1957, S. 3; The Investments in West Germany and others capitalist countries, in: ibid, S. 7 ff.

The Industrial monopolies procured itself in the 'Third Reich' her Medium at the at least through Emissions new shares, rather on the way of so-called 'Self-financing', so through the huge increase in profits, the Them the fascist economic policy guaranteed and through state Grants. In the individual e.g. b. through the unheard of increase in exploitation and the Value Added Rate as a result of destruction of the unions, of wage freezes, of strike ban, the Forced labor of concentration camp prisoners and 'foreign workers'; through takeover from development and Investment costs for new Production process on the part of state; through state profitability guarantee, d. H. Backup of monopoly profits through subsidies at favorable relationship between Production costs and achievable prices; through Takeover of the Sales risk and securing the full capacity the production capacity the Country (Armament orders etc.), even not to talk about the raids in the occupied ones countries.

All these Measures together secured it Monopolies such horrendous profits, that them from them your could cover financial needs and not necessarily on the **output** new shares purposes of Raising capital were instructed. If she now issued new shares, then it happened usually not for fundraising, but without making use of the capital market from the already enriched provisions. With a such an increase share capital became firstly the discrepancy between the height of share capital and that increased 'intrinsic value' the company tempered, by which at the same time prevented that the increase of Wins even in high dividend rates too open became knowledgeable<sup>51</sup>; secondly, the newly issued shares served to through the participation system to expand one's own sphere of power even further.

This form the increase of share capital entspi'ach so by no means only the interests of the stock corporation in question, but just as much those the Bank, with the she tied together was, because she presented secure, that also the new Stocks under the control the Administration and 'of their' remained bank, lock so the Danger of Foreign infiltration on off from the start.

From this is to see that it by no means Signs achieved 'Independence' from the banks was, if the Defense industry 'good at checkout' and less reliant on bank loans was, but that Result the Mastery of the state through the financial oligarchy, whereby after like before Bank representative the leading role played. Thus find we confirmed by our investigation, What Faingar with following words pronounced: 'It So it shows that itself only the Shape, not but the beings the Relationships between the industry and Bank capital changed had. The already from Lenin determined new role the Banks in imperialism (in fascist Germany - K G.) grew rapidly, '52"

These statements out of dem Years 1963 would be used to identify the situation in the Federal Republic just to add that it significantly, the leading banker of the leading monopoly bank, **Hermann Abs**, was, the one from the The federal government has repeatedly and emphatically encouraged self **-financing** Economic policy that was more supportive of industry was required. 53 Er did the of course not, because he the Industrial companies from the Big banks more independent wanted to see but him did it as Representative of West Germany In perialism, the from the Dependency from capital import from the USA free up and wanted to force capital accumulation internally, in order to be able to open its own capital export offensive, among other things. The strengthening of the own capital power West German There was no other way for imperialism to proceed go as on the the increase

51 See. in addition Kuczynski, Jürgen, The Story the Position the workers in Germany, a. a. O., Berlin 1948, S. 32 Note 11.

52 Faingar, I. M., a. a. O., S. 74.

53 The Mirror, April 18, 1951; Section, H. J., The Montanunion can no Loans to record, in the world, March 3, 1953; same, speech on the general meeting of the Dortmund-Hoer the hut union, in: Industriekurier, April 1, 1954.

hung the Profit first in the production operating capitalist companies. This was the only way that could happen West German Bank capital his own Expand its base and its position vis-à-vis foreign ones Competitors strengthen. The self-financing of the Industrial monopolies would only then be a reduction role of big banks result in If you with a easing of the Business relationships with this would be connected as well with the Establishment of our own "house banks". Industrial monopolies. The attempts in But everyone is in this direction the beginnings stuck; the development lung rather, it led to that the big banks always more to House banks the at the closest with them associated Industrial monopolies became, How the for the Relationships between Germans Bank and Siemens, Donut trading company and has long been a hallmark of AEG.

The growing one role of bank capital is but by no means only for West Germany character terlstisch. The Secretary General the Communist Political party the UNITED STATES, Gus Hall, shared on the Muscovites international Advice the communist and Workers' parties from 1969 informative Facts above the new Development in the USA with. Out of his Executions goes out, that the Education from conglomerates with one new Level the Power development folding the Monopoly banks in the national and international scale tied together is. Gus **Hall** asked **firmly**, that "the American imperialism with its bank control a new link via the industrial conglomerates to the imperialist chain added" has.<sup>54</sup> The from the American capital in created abroad Banks are becoming too the main centers, in which the financial means of Imperialists concentrated become. They are the centers, those who American imperialist Conglomerates check... With Help this Banks controlled he (the American one imperialism - K. G.) both the industry and also the Governments...<sup>55</sup>

We may conclude, that Lenin's identification of the ratio from Bank and industrial capital are by no means obsolete under imperialism is.

## 2. The role the Major banks in the Group fight within the Monopoly bourgeoisie

It would be obvious, is but nonetheless mistaken, out of the universality the Monopoly banks on to close their uniformity, How that, for example, with the bourgeois National economists Hanns Weber resonates<sup>56</sup>. Weber provides that is correct firmly: "Until for the beginning of Exp The big banks' sion process could be seen in the national and international issuing business, both irregular and regular Banking business still individual Countries, areas, Industries and companies as View domains of individual major banks and structural ones Differences the business Interests notice."<sup>57</sup> Weber exaggerates however, if he for the later ones time the Monopoly banks as represents, as it were, de-individualized, uniform structures.<sup>58</sup> Each Big bank remains embossed through her past. The store-

54 International consulting of the communist and workers parties Moscow 1969, Berlin 1969, p. 535.

55 Ibid, S. 534 f. - The US imperialism leads with it an old tradition continued. Already in May 1917 quoted Lenin following Statement from a Wall Street Journal: "Around the to rule the world, you need two things: dollars and banks. We have dollars, We will found banks, and we will rule the world." (Lenin, W. I., war and revolution, in: works, Vol. 24, S. 402.)

56 weaver, Hanns, Banking place Berlin, Cologne/Opladen 1957.

57 Ibid, S. 55.

58 Ibid.

borrowed focuses of their “youth”. after to in the Present, in everyone from them the ensemble from diverse group interests in others (absolutely variable) Mixture combined. 59 That's why they are too the from the individual major banks championed Lines not congruent with the "diagonal" of the monopolistic overall interest, although she this one much stronger approach as those any industrial corporations.

The deviations the Bank lines from each other and from the line of overall interest of the The monopoly bourgeoisie is ultimately based on materially based conflicts of interest, which only very difficult and under great pressure and ordinary bridging and balancing even just temporarily let. Would it be not like that, then he would have Cravings according to monopoly profit Big banks have long since merged into a single giant super-monopoly bank and welded together, then the structure of the Financial capital no longer comes from one Variety from competing financial groups, their center - like a central sun - each by a monopoly bank was formed, but then this super-monopoly bank would have subordinated all the smaller and larger financial capitalist “solar systems” to itself and you to a single, united in a gigantic system. To such a degree of concentration of the capital is however the Capitalism is so incapable today as in Lenin's lifetime and from the same reasons the Lenin already 1915/16 against Kautskys theory from “fitra-imperialism” into the field led.

In the December 1915 wrote Lenin: "It subject to no doubt, that the Development in the direction on one single, everyone without exception ventures and without exception all states devouring World trust runs. But this Development he follows under such circumstances, in one such Tempo, under such contradictions, conflicts and vibrations... , that necessarily before it to a single world trust, to an 'ultra imperialist' World Association the national Financial capital comes, the Imperialism inevitably burst must, that the capitalism in be Opposite turn over becomes. <sup>1160</sup> A few months later, in his classic work on imperialism, came Lenin on "Kautsky's empty talk about 'mtra-imperialism'" back, that has the “fundamentally wrong idea” nourish, "that the rule of financial capital the unevenness and the Contradictions within the World economy weaken , while she in Reality this reinforced.<sup>11 61</sup>

The reinforcement of the unevenness and the contradictions of the imperialist world economy is but only those Consequence of The effect of a law that affects capitalism as a whole own is and the yourself too within every capitalist one country enforced - the law of uneven economic and political Development.

In which Now they are wise monopoly banks the formation from factions and groups the Monopoly bourgeoisie involved? How is her Relationship to the main groups the industrial Monopoly bourgeoisie: heavy industry (coal/steel) and new Industries ( chemical/electrical)?

This Ask becomes in the Marxist Literature right different treated and answered .

Kuczynski measures - How already mentioned - the banks no meaning for the Groups- and faction formation within the monopoly bourgeoisie.

59 Hagemann, Wilhelm, a. a. O., S. 155.

60 Lenin, W. I., Preface to N Bukharin Brochure "World Economy and Imperialism", in: Lenin, W. I., Factories, Vol. 22, S. 106.

61 The same, The imperialism as highest stage of Capitalism, a. a. O., S. 276.

Faingar rightly polemicizes against underestimation the role of Banks through Kuczynski. 62 His attempt to give the banks to them given its due place the Formation of Gru:ir pen der German to assign financial oligarchy, can but not yet fully satisfy.

Faingar also states the existence of the both main groups of German monopoly capital, heavy industry and export industry, which we as in your triangle identify the main groups. The Financial support, the role of bank capital to take into account well is looking This does justice to Faingar to become, that he each of these both Main groups one or several Banks and Bankers assigned: the group the Heavy industry - shaft and that Bankhaus Schröder<sup>63</sup>; the Group of processing and export industries - the German Bank and the Berlin trading company. Dte as described names groups

he financial monopoly Groups. 64 Faingar leaves with the construction disregard his group scheme, that the banks none of the both industrial Main groupings exclusively can be assigned; that's how the German was Bench in the Heavy industry no less committed than for example the Schröderbank; this in turn was with IG Farben no less narrow limits as with the steel association. Faingar taken into account so at his Try to find the place Banks in the German group structure Determining financial capital is not enough universality of Banks.

In contrast, Alfred Schröter points out in his article about problems of Origin and development of monopolistic groups on that though there, that the Banks as The whole thing is difficult a single grouping to assign are<sup>65</sup>, he sees but of that away, the Roll the Banks at the to examine group formation in more detail. It therefore remains undecided in his work how the big banks the Origin and development of monopoly groups involved. Schröter limited itself on the Remark, the Banks are allowed often a self-employed person represent grouping. 66

Meanwhile, he will Expression the Financial group with us for a long time to Labelling je ner Groups within of financial capital used, in whose center respectively one Bank stands. SC? says Radandt of the Financial group the Germans Bench <sup>67</sup>, and he means that same Grouping, the at Baumann as "German Bank family" designated turns <sup>68</sup>. Analogs Financial groups consist also around the others Monopoly banks.

It lies on the Hand, that these financial groups with the main groups of the industrial monopoly capital cannot be identical, in addition everyone who mentioned Financial groups undertakings a 11 important industrial sectors belong, so both montane as also **chemical** and electrical companies. The emergence and development of these Financial groups lay

62 Faingar, I.M., S. 73.

63 Over the Bank house Schroeder Gebr. & Co., Hamburg, and his international Relationships please refer Leonidov, A. The international role the English-American-schen Schroedel' bench, in: New World, H. 7/1947; Gossweiler, Kurt. The role of Monopoly capital at the bringing about the Röhrn affair, a. a. O., S. 234 ff.

64 Faingar, I.M., a. a. O., S. 85 ff.

65 Schröter, Alfred. Some methodological Questions of Origin and Development more monopolistic Groups in Germany, in: Yearbook for Economic history 1966, T 4, S. 134.

66 Ibid, S. 138.

67 Radandt, Hans. To the relationships between the Group of Germans Bank and the state apparatus at the Preparation and execution of second World War (in the the following: To the Relationships), in: The German imperialism and the Second World War, Vol. 2, Berlin 1961, S. 9, 10; the same, war crimes corporation Mansfeld, Berlin 1957, S. 11.

68 Baumann, G., banks, Banks above everything, Berlin 1956, graphic Depiction between the rare 64 and 65.

not common based on industry interests, but the commonality the Connection to the same financial center, to the same Bank.

So we see that the Group formation in the Monopoly bourgeoisie not just about one, but about two axes takes place: firstly about the Axis of the from the economic-technical Production - and Conditions of sale resulting specific industry interests, on the other hand, about the Axis of financial capitalist connections. Both axes intersect itself, represent, so to speak, the abscissa and the Ordinate in monopoly capitalism coordinate system.

The double group formation is the inevitable consequence the Double existence of capital as functioning and as money capital<sup>69</sup>, a double existence, the ones from the Dual nature of the goods as Unit of use value and value results.

The double existence of Capital leads to the dual existence of capitalists as more industrial and than money capitalist and with it to split the Added value in interest and entrepreneurial profits. This first pure quantitative division of the Profits becomes, as Marx shows, to a qualitative: "Both for the industrial one capitalists, so on works with borrowed capital, as for the money capitalists, so on If he does not use his capital himself, this is a purely quantitative division of the capital gross profits between two different people, both different Legal title have on the same capital and therefore on the profit generated by him, to get into a qualitative division..."

And this ossification and independence of the two parts of the raw profit against each other, as if she out of two essential came from different sources, must now decide for the entire Capitalists class and for the Total capital fix ... The profit of every capital ... breaks down exler is broken down into two qualitatively different ones, against each other independent and independent parts, Interest and entrepreneurial profit, both of which are governed by special laws be determined.<sup>1170</sup>

Naturally are the independence and independence the both parts, interest and company mer profit, just appearance, How yes at all in "interest-bearing capital ... the capital ratio his most external and most fetish-like Shape" reached.<sup>71</sup> But at the same time is this Appearance

a reflection of realities, although a misleading one. The apparent independence and independence of interest and entrepreneurial profit brings the actual independence of the money capitalists (bankers) versus the industrial capitalist and the different, sometimes conflicting interests of both to expression. In this regard there is a common interest of all money capitalists, that is, of all banks, towards the industrial capitalists.

The formation from Financial groups in the process of interweaving from Industry- and Bank capital for the Financial capital he follows however not on the basis more common interests of the banks, rather in the Opposite as Consequence of their bitter Rivalry.

The core everyone Financial group becomes common from representatives of the their center is the monopoly bank and the with her most closely connected Industrial monopolies educated.

When working out the contrasts within the Monopoly bourgeoisie can now only too easily the fact can be obscured that it All opposites and enemy groups are about opposites and groups within a unit, in our trap of German imperialism, acts and that the common to all groups and what connects them stronger and is more crucial as their differences. That's why there would be one

69 Marx, Karl, a. a. 0., S. 493.

70 Ibid, S. 388.

71 Ibid, S. 404.

such an idea mistaken, that the financial groups in closed and represented structures that were sharply defined on the outside. Just as is absurd however the opposite idea, that in imperialism the mutual interweaving and Matting the various Interests and Financial groups so far had progressed, that it even no longer to formation sharply opposing groups come. Latter Opinion became by the way with the Reinforcement the imperialist integration efforts, **especially** that one EEC, from the old and new revisionists also on the transferred to the international level. Their unsustainability is but not just through the documents of the communist **world movement** theoretically proven, but now also through the ge historical **Practice** has been emphatically confirmed.

From all this it follows , that the classification of an industrial monopoly or an individual monopolist in the Coordinate system monopolistic Group formation at least according to the regulations Belonging to an industrial group Area and after that Belonging to a Financial group requirement. Without these two It will be destiny hardly succeed, from the multitude of conflicting interests, in the each Group and in every major bank are, the dominant one interest find out, the ultimately the line of action determined.

Only that Uncovering and revealing this dominant interest provides us with the key the understanding of the concrete impact of the monopolies on the Politics, for the implementation of economics into politics through the Monopoly capital.

### 3. Who controls the Monopoly banks?

Some authors **throw** the The question arises as to who actually owns the big banks, the yes, stock banks are, controlled.

Radandt describes the balance of power at Deutsche Bank, the undisputedly the most powerful major bank of German finance capital, so: The owners and representatives of the large industrial banks Concentrations of power command together with private bankers and Large landowners the Power bloc the Germans Bank.<sup>72</sup>

With it is said, that the directors of the Germans Bank are nothing other than the Authorized representatives of the "German power bloc". Bank" controlling capitalists. In the Financial groups therefore give in to Radandt not the major bank manager, but the rest members - the the respective "bank family" sets the tone. At another point, Radandt weakens this assertion by saying: determination from to financial group Germans Bank belonged to "both the the Deutsche Bank controlling as also the from her dominated Monopolies and the her constantly or temporarily friends Corporations..."<sup>73</sup>

Schröter also asks the question, "who actually owns the monopoly banks controlled.<sup>1174</sup> Er supposed, that this "big individual Assets" are, the "many times in Private banks are located." And he then claims, that the German Bank "from the parent company Siemens ... as well as from Eduart Beit from Speyer dem Bankhaus Lazard Speyer Ellissen" controlled became, the with 20 percent IJ.II the Germans Bank involved been be.<sup>75</sup> There after would be so the leaders of the Private banks more powerful than the boards of directors of the Monopoly banks?<sup>76</sup>

<sup>72</sup> Radandt, Hans, war crimes corporation Mansfeld, a. a. 0., S. 167.

<sup>73</sup> The same, To the Relationships, a. a. O., S. 10,

<sup>74</sup> Schröter, Alfred, a. a. 0., p. 138.

<sup>75</sup> Ibid.

<sup>76</sup> See. Baumann, G., a. a. 0., S. 10: "The Private banks became ... through the Development of capitalism from the capital-strong Joint-stock banks always more in the Behind-



Radandt and Schröter look at them Monopoly banks not as self-employed centers of power with your own Will and original Interests, but as manipulated from outside and dominated institutions. The methodical Starting point, the she to this one result leads, is the view, who major shareholder the Monopoly banks be, he controls them too.

A Mistake such point of view consists obvious in that not to observe, that the big banks represent financial capitalist great powers, compared with those Private banks at best Duode principalities form. A twenty percent more Shareholders Private bank at Shares one Big bank is therefore in all Rule the Proof for that, that these Private bank so hard of the Big bank is controlled, that she from her without danger for placing large blocks of shares to be used can. German stock corporation legislation allowed the acquisition of own shares by a stock corporation only in exceptional cases and only to a limited extent height to. Therefore he put it board every stock corporation, but especially the boards of large companies monopolies, greatest importance to the majority of shares of the own company so to place, that she in "friends" hands lay, which is the guarantee offered, that the majority of shares did not get out of control. That could be on the different ways happen. The Performance, that the Domination above one Big bank somewhere else than at Board of Directors big bank is located, has with the reality of Imperialism little too do. It is not enough to investigate in whose hands blocks of shares in a major bank are located, man must knowledge, like her fell into these hands and in which one ratio of the relevant shareholder to Bank stands, in order to be able to judge whether it actually about a control package, a capital investment or a package is, that on behalf of the held by the Board of Directors. It's about it beyond that too necessary, about this Right to vote the the relevant shares.

In one Report from the German Economic Institute about the German Bank is proven that the board this Bank to general meeting in the Years 1943 over more as 80 percent of Voices of the shareholders! 77 The same DWI report talks about the methods of board of directors of Bank to Backup the Control over your own shares follows reported: "The Board members belong today to the respectively biggest individual shareholders. Through strict complied with contracts will ensured, that after to death one active or in the Supervisory Board transgressed board member his Shares always at each incumbent Board handed over Need to become, causing fragmentation his Power on the Inherit the deceased Colleagues prevented becomes. To the times of the first Bosses the Germans Bank, George from Siemens, as well as his son-in-law Karl Helferich, gave it this Determination still not, which can also be attributed to is that still today the Siemens family too the large individual shareholders heard... Otherwise but one pays jealous attention to that also the The chairwoman of the supervisory board always has one from the current

reason pushed." About this development, which was further promoted by the fascist dictatorship, he complained Private banker Kurt von Schröder bitter during his interrogation by the prosecution US Military Tribunal: "As the legislator the Number the Supervisory board seats, the an individual hold could, limited, the small bankers were obviously in Disadvantage, because the big banks have their supervisory board positions among the many members of their board of directors. Furthermore, they could through this, d them Representatives of the leading industries in the Landesauwe Schlisse brought in, the number of participants was not limited... , still have their influence expand further... This is how the big banks robbed even in reinforced form Dimensions the customers of the small Private banks continued to expand and weaken like that positions of the smaller banks." (Anatomy of war, a. a. O., S. 100.)

77 Report of German Economic Institute Berlin, H. 15/1961: The German Bank - Center of German financial capital, S. 7.

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tiven service retired board member is ... 73 The Ask, who the Deutsche Bank controlled, becomes by DWI-Report clearly answered: "The decisive one role in the Germans So bank falls the: i\mpartitions of the Board of Directors to, the under their 'speaker' as factual Chairman determine .....79

Under such Conditions can the "control body" of the shareholders, the supervisory board, nothing else be as a compliant instrument of Board of Directors. In the DWI report becomes in addition from: "The Supervisory board members place the Connection to the Pursue here, with whom the Bank particularly tight contacts has. However can man here in this respect from a 'surveillance 'business activity' not speak, there the Supervisory Board in the Board offices are put together .....like this

What here for the German Bench marked became, provides of course not a special case, but rather is one at the huge Monopoly companies already since decades usual Practice.

Who from the scattering of the Ownership of bank shares not to draw false conclusions who wants to get there must aside from that take into account, that the Distribution of young shares of the Monopoly banks to the industrial monopolies related to them and private banks The means is to bind them even more closely.<sup>81</sup> Even such an apologist Bank capital like Hey man, the eager for it engaged is, the real Power the Banks to trivialize, must determine that one Bank on the supervisory board one Industri eun t he take s extensive Influence until to can exercise control, the reversed case but excluded t.82

A second crucial error then occurs, if the Power of Banks are not the cause of their Function in the overall system derived from the capitalist mode of production, How Marx and Lenin the do, rather in first line out of dem itself first out of this function derivational possession the banks shares of the dependent ventures.<sup>83</sup>

A often to hearing objection against the Determination the Supremacy the Banks opposite the industrial capital is the Argument, the added value become but finally in the production generated and not in the Circulation. Consequently could the Capitalist, the outside the Production only in the sphere the circulation employed be, not Power win above the, the the added value at the source skim off. This is a Objection, the the Fetish character everyone (except the socialist) Goods production except eight leaves.

Marx shows in the "Capital", that in the production of goods the reification more social Conditions the People the real ones connections wrong, mystified reflected become; that the dead, from the People produced world of goods a own existence wins and the People under her Laws forces, those he helpless and faint tig delivered is. Marx calls the the the Goods production own Fetishism.<sup>84</sup>

He achieves in money Fetishism of simple commodity production and in money capital capitalist commodity production reaches its highest expression. "As interest-bearing money capital ... receives this capital its pure Fetish form."<sup>35</sup>

78 Ibid.

79 Ibid.

80 Ibid.

81 Ibid.

82 Hagemann, Wilhelm, a. a. O., S. 78.

83 Radandt, Hans, To the Relationships, a. a. O., S. 11.

84 Marx, Karl, The Capital, Vol. 1, in: Marx/Engels, Factories, Vol. 23, Berlin 1962, S. 86f.

85 Ibid, Vol. 3, S. 406.

His Origin and Nature after himself Goods, kicks that Money the entire world of goods as one true.'I.real sorceress opposite, you first Life breathing in and she to dance, the means to Circulating. So too the Money capital: This can happen without his participation fungi rende capital not act, can capitalist production not take place.

Money and money capital appear so not only as Middle between production and circulation, rather as cause as well as the production as also the Circulation. Therefore also the superstition, that any sales slowdown Constipations the Money channels attributed and consequently through Invigoration of money in circulation too again be fixed.S6 – This But belief also lies with the primitives Monetary theories one Gottfried Pen like the sophisticated and sublime theories of a J. M. Keynes and his Epigones underlying. But even Marxist economists can fall under the spell of this superstition, in case you to the view, the state monopoly regulations to Elimination of malfunctions reproductive process - whose leverage ultimately all comes from money, namely on credit and taxes, put on - be able, the periodicity of Crisis cycle to lift up and they could return greater, more devastating Prevent global economic crises .

The money capital as purest fetish form of capital is the God the capitalist world of goods. His power passes on the intermediary between God (money) and the world thirsting for God - at the Banks. She become pope in the frequented world of capitalistic commodity production, in the the things rule over people. The supremacy of the Banks opposite dem Industrial capital in the imperialism is far fewer breathable as it the victories of the Popes about the medieval Emperor were. Because of their seemingly irrational Power lies quite something other underlying, as it the religious Believe is a Fact, the even already mentioned became and the Lenin in the concise words summarized: "The banks are ... the centers of the modern economic life most important nerve nodes entire capitalist system Economics." 87

This role must theBanks in the highly developed capitalist production of goods , in imperialism, play, can it but also only in her. With the Repeal of the Capital property of the Means of production will also be "everyone mysticism of goods world, all of that magic and spooky, which work products based on the (pre-socialist

schen - K.G. \_ ) Goods production umnebeIt 1188 , disappear. With the commodity fetishism becomes Money fetishism eliminated, money dethroned and its mediating functions pointed out. The banks still play a very important role, but they are not more, what she in imperialism were - Command centers of the economist shaft. The inviolability of capitalist property the means of production, so far it monopoly capitalist property is, makes it the capitalist one State in principle impossible, "the economy" opposite as planner and to appear as a leader. Where he seems to appear like this, he does it as Instrument, as.tool of financial capital for enforcement the "Profit Planning" the different financial groups, with to the banks the Great , as state monopoly Regulation. She, the banks, are not the single but the top ones Command centers of the financial capital.

In the Socialism is her Role very much much more modest. Marx says: "Finally there is no doubt, that the Credit system as a more powerful lever serve becomes while of Over now the capitalist mode of production the Method of production the associated work: however only as a element in the Connection with others huge orga-

86 Ibid, S. 507.

87 Lenin, W. I., The threatening catastrophe and How man she fight should, in: Factories, Vol. 25, S. 338.

88 Marx, Karl, a. a. O., Vol. 1, S. 90.

niches upheavals of the method of production itself ... S<sup>9</sup> The Line the Economy is now actually "in the hands of the state, that is, the **proletariat** organized as a ruling class.,"<sup>90</sup>

Grasp we together:

1. The Leadership role of monopoly banks in imperialism, within of finance capital inevitably out of their function in the capitalist Production method
2. If their power less externally in Appearance occurs as the Power more industrial Monopoly, so lies the first to it, that the Results of their effectiveness itself not in material goods knock down, so less tangible and apparently are, secondly to it, that their Task itself in the Silence, behind the back the Publicity carries out, and third to it, that the Banks himself the largest interest to it have, the real one Scope of their Power to to disguise yourself not as rulers, but as servants showcase.
3. The Monopoly banks neither will from individual industrial monopolies nor from Private banks still do from any other owners "controls" their shares. They are Monopoly with own, original Interests and one own, out of this one Interests emerging Politics. Your leaders educate the top top of the financial capitalist **hierarchy** and stand in the center of the different Financial groups. Not the Look for the "controllers the Major banks"<sup>1191</sup> delivers the Key for her Politics, rather the Be mood the position everyone Monopoly bank and of their Financial group in the system of respective national imperialism, as well as the Analysis of the conflicting ones Interests within every financial group led by a monopoly bank and the Elaboration of in everyone group dominant interest.

Out of the central position and Key function the Monopoly banks result itself important conclusions for the anti-imperialist Battle: Every attempt one democratic alternative on state monopoly economic policy in the imperialist countries and everyone Attempt the boys nation states, from the Shackles of colonialism and neocolonialism to free, must remain unsuccessful, as long as he on nationalizations and controls in industrial Area remains limited and the Transfer of banking in the hands of democratic state system not completed becomes. Who the centers of financial capital meet want, they must the push everything against the Monopoly banks lead.

<sup>89</sup> Ibid, Vol. 3, S. 621 (emphasis from me - K.G.).

<sup>90</sup> Marx, Karl/Engels, Frederick, The manifesto the Communist Political party, in: Marx/Engels, Factories, Vol. 4, Berlin 1959. p. 481.

<sup>91</sup> Schröter, Alfred, a. a. O., p. 138.